

Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 DRC-01

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R 290810Z DEC 73

FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4856

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION GENEVA

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT EG

SUBJECT: CAIRO PRESS REVEALS NEW SPY CASE

1. DECEMBER 29 CAIRO PRESS BREAKS NEWS OF NEW SPY CASE. CASE INVOLVED SINGLE INDIVIDUAL, ONE NABIL SHAFIQ MIKHAIL AL-NAHHAS, OF EGYPTIAN BIRTH BUT LEBANESE NATIONALITY, WHO WAS ARRESTED ON NOVEMBER 14 ON CHARGES OF SPYING FOR ISRAEL.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, AL-NAHHAS SERVED WITH AAPSO SINCE HIS GRADUATION FROM FACULTY OF COMMERCE, AND BEGAN HIS ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES FOLLOWING CONTACT WITH ISRAELI AGENT IN PARIS IN 1960. HIS FIRST ACT OF ESPIONAGE INVOLVED REQUEST BY ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE TO OBTAIN NEWS ON 1960 AAPSO CONFERENCE IN CONAKRY; FROM 1961 TO 1967, ACCORDING TO ACCOUNT, AL-NAHHAS MAINTAINED CONTACT WITH AND PASSED INFORMATION ON TO A CERTAIN "STANLEY" AND RECEIVED MONEY FOR THESE ACTIVITIES. AT END OF 1967, NAHHAS WAS ASKED TO BROADEN HIS ACTIVITIES FROM REPORTING ON AAPSO TO INCLUDE INFORMATION ABOUT USSR AND CHINA AND THEIR RELATIONS WITH OTHER AAPSO MEMBERS. FROM 1967 TO 1970, HE WAS PASSED TO ANOTHER CONTACT AND WAS ASKED TO CONCENTRATE ON SOVIET ACTIVITY IN EGYPT,

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SOVIET ARMS, AND SOVIET EXPERTS, AS WELL AS POLITICAL AND

ECONOMIC INFORMATION REGARDING

EGYPT ITSELF. BY THE END OF 1970, AL-NAHHAS WAS ASKED TO INCLUDE MILITARY INFORMATION IN HIS REPORTS. BY MID-1972 HE WAS TRAINED TO USE RADIO TO RECEIVE MESSAGES, AND WAS GIVEN A CODE BOOK. HE WAS FINALLY CAUGHT RED-HANDED WITH HIS EQUIPMENT FOLLOWING INTENSIFICATION OF HIS ACTIVITIES DURING OCTOBER WAR. ARTICLES CONCLUDE THAT AL-NAHHAS HAS BEEN UNDER SURVEILLANCE SINCE 1965, AND SINCE THAT TIME PASSED FALSE INFORMATION TO ISRAELIS.

3. PRESS ARTICLES ON SPY CASE LINK AL-NAHHAS TO ISRAEL ONLY, AND NO OTHER COUNTRY IS MENTIONED AS HAVING BEEN INVOLVED IN HIS ACTIVITIES.
SMITH

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